

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed June 30, 2005 has been reviewed and carefully considered.

Claims 1 and 10 have been cancelled. Claims 2-9, 11, and 13-15 have been amended. New Claims 16-30 have been added. Claims 2-9 and 11-30 are pending.

Initially, the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter is gratefully acknowledged. In particular, Claims 2-4 and 11-14 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected claim(s) but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The specification has been objected to because of informalities. Accordingly, the acronym "DOCSIS" has been properly defined in its first occurrence at page 1, line 21 of the specification, and all occurrences of DOCSIS have been verified to be capitalized and accompanied immediately thereafter by the following registered trademark symbol "®". Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 10, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Burns et al. and in further view of Ristic et al.

Allowable Claims 2 and 11 have been amended to now be in independent form, with allowable Claims 3-4 and 12-14 previously or currently depending therefrom, respectively. Claims 5-9 have been amended to now depend from allowable Claim 2 and, thus, are believed to be allowable over the cited references in at least the same manner as Claim 2.

Claim 15 has been amended to now include the limitations of allowable Claim 2 and, thus, is believed to be allowable over the cited references in at least the same manner as Claim 2. New Claims 16-22 have been added, which each depend from Claim 15 and are, thus, believed to be allowable over the cited references in at least the same manner as Claim 15.

New independent Claim 23 has been added, and essentially includes all of the limitations of Claim 15, using means-plus-function language. Thus, Claim 23 is believed to be allowable over the cited references in at least the same manner as Claim 15. New Claims 24-30 have been added, which each depend from Claim 23 and are, thus, believed to be allowable over the cited references in at least the same manner as Claim 23.

Accordingly, all of the pending claims, namely Claims 2-9 and 11-30 are believed to be allowable over the cited references for at least the reasons set forth above.

Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claim 7 has been amended to remove the recitation of "second". Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claim 9 has been amended to now recite, *inter alia*, "wherein said device supports multiple standards", thus removing the recitation of DOCSIS therefrom. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of the claims set forth in the Office Action of June 30, 2005 be withdrawn, that pending claims 2-9 and 11-30 be allowed, and that the case proceed to early issuance of Letters Patent in due course.


Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections, it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicants' attorney at the phone number below, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Please charge the \$600 fee for the 8 additional claims and the 1 additional independent claim, and any other fees that may be associated with the filing of this amendment, to Deposit Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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